

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND SPACE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Science and Space be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 7, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. on NASA Budget and Programs: Outside Perspectives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows, law clerks, and interns of the staff of the Finance Committee be allowed on the Senate floor for the duration of the debate on the estate tax: Tiffany Smith, Laura Kellams, Tom Louthan, Christal Edwards, Joseph Adams, and Justin Kraske.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to two members of my staff, and they are Bradford Swann and Captain Gade.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Pele Peacock, a law clerk in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the debate regarding the Native Hawaiians legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent a law clerk on my staff, Sam Burk, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the debate on S. 147.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my budget fellow, Dr. Andrew Barrett, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the death tax debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF LIBYAN CREDENTIALS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 504 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 504) expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should not accept the credentials of any representative of the Government of Libya without the expressed understanding that the Government of Libya will continue to work in good faith to resolve outstanding cases of United States victims of terrorism sponsored or supported by Libya, including

the settlement of cases arising from the Pan Am Flight 103 and LaBelle Discoteque bombings.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The resolution (S. Res. 504) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 504

Whereas there has not been a resolution of the claims of members of the United States Armed Forces and other United States citizens who were injured in the April 6, 1986, bombing of the LaBelle Discoteque in Berlin, Germany, and the claims of family members of the service men and women killed in that bombing or the resolution of other outstanding cases of United States victims of terror sponsored or supported by Libya;

Whereas, on December 21, 1988, terrorists from Libya bombed Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270 people, including 189 Americans;

Whereas, on May 29, 2002, the Government of Libya offered to pay up to \$2,700,000,000 to settle claims by the families of the 270 people killed aboard Pan Am Flight 103, representing \$10,000,000 for each victim of the Pan Am Flight 103 bombing;

Whereas, on August 15, 2003, Libya's Ambassador to the United Nations, Ahmed Own, submitted a letter to the United Nations Security Council formally accepting "responsibility for the action of its officials" in relation to the Lockerbie bombing;

Whereas, on September 12, 2003, the United Nations lifted sanctions against Libya, thereby enabling the first trigger of the agreement between the Government of Libya and the families of the victims of the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 for a payment of \$4,000,000 per victim that has been paid to the victims' families;

Whereas, on September 24, 2004, the United States lifted most economic sanctions against Libya, thereby enabling the second trigger of the agreement between the Government of Libya and the families of the victims of the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 for an additional payment of \$4,000,000 per victim that has been paid to the victims' families;

Whereas, on May 15, 2006, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice announced the determination of President George W. Bush to rescind the designation of Libya on the list of state sponsors of terrorism, thereby enabling the third trigger of the agreement between the Government of Libya and the families of the victims of the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 for a final payment of \$2,000,000 per victim;

Whereas, on May 15, 2006, Secretary of State Rice announced the reestablishment of full diplomatic relations with the Government of Libya, ending 26 years of isolation; and

Whereas the agreement between the Government of Libya and the families of the victims of the attack on Pan Am Flight 103 incorporated a timeline for payment of the full \$2,700,000,000 that has not been met even though all of the other conditions for such payment have been satisfied.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) it remains an important priority for further improvement in the relations between the United States and Libya that the Government of Libya make a good faith effort to resolve all outstanding claims of United States victims of terrorism sponsored or supported by Libya;

(2) it is in the best interests of the long-term relationship between the United States and Libya that final payment be made to the families of the victims of the attack on Pan Am Flight 103; and

(3) the President should not accept the credentials of any representative of the Government of Libya without the expressed understanding that the Government of Libya will continue to work in good faith to resolve outstanding cases of United States victims of terrorism sponsored or supported by Libya, including the settlement of cases arising from the Pan Am Flight 103 and LaBelle Discoteque bombings.

TO AMEND SECTION 105(b)(3) OF THE ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1978

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4311, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4311) to amend section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App).

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today by amending and passing H.R. 4311, we make another attempt to extend critical protections needed to keep the Nation's Federal judges and their families safe. Last November, the Senate passed S. 1558, which extended for 4 years the "sunset" of a provision granting the Judicial Conference of the United States the authority to redact information from a judge's mandatory financial disclosure in circumstances in which it is determined that the release of the information could endanger the filer or the filer's family. This provision was first enacted in the "Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998" and extended for 4 years in 2001. Chairman SPECTER and I worked with Senators COLLINS and LIEBERMAN to amend S. 1558 to again include a 4-year "sunset" and also to extend its protections to the family members of filers.

Like the more comprehensive court security measure Chairman SPECTER and I have introduced, S. 1968, the "Court Security Improvement Act of 2005, CSIA, from which it is drawn, S. 1558 provides judges and their families with needed security by extending the judges' redaction authority without interruption and expanding it to their families. It also strikes the right balance with the need for continuing congressional oversight to prevent the

misuse of this redaction authority, which has been a matter of some concern to me. I appreciate that the Judicial Conference is seeking to improve its practices and the Senate passed S. 1558 because none of us wants to see judges or their families endangered.

However, the House failed to take up and pass S. 1558 before the end of the session. As I said last December, I was disappointed at this failure, which allowed redaction authority to lapse at the end of last year. Instead, the House passed a separate bill, H.R. 4311, which would make redaction authority permanent and which fails to extend it to cover family members of filers. As passed by the House, H.R. 4311 would remove Congress' critical role providing oversight over the use of this extraordinary authority to redact financial disclosure forms. As amended and passed today, H.R. 4311 restores the proper balance while extending the redaction authority, retroactive to its expiration last December, until December 31, 2007. It also makes protection of judges' family members explicit.

I hope that the House will join us without delay both in extending the redaction authority and in expanding the scope of its protections to include family members, so that we can continue to protect the dedicated women and men throughout the Judiciary in this country who do a tremendous job under challenging circumstances.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4193) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to protect family members of filers from disclosing sensitive information in a public filing and to extend the authority to redact financial disclosure statements of judicial employees and judicial officers)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. PROTECTION OF FAMILY MEMBERS.

Section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or a family member of that individual” after “that individual”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by inserting “or a family member of that individual” after “the report”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PUBLIC FILING REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(b)(3)(E) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by striking “2005” each place it appears and inserting “2007”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICATION.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as though enacted on December 31, 2005.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the amendment and third reading of the bill.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 4311), as amended, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. On behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 8. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 8, the death tax relief bill, as under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, we have had a full day debating the motions to proceed to the death tax relief bill and the Native Hawaiian bill. Tomorrow morning, at approximately 10:45, we will have a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the death tax relief bill, and at 12:45 we will have a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the Native Hawaiian bill. We have several nominations to address before the end of the week. These include several judicial nominations, as well as Susan Schwab to be United States Trade Representative, and Richard Stickler to be the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health. We hope to vote tomorrow afternoon on the Schwab nomination and four district judges.

Following these votes, the schedule for the remainder of the afternoon will be dependent on the outcome of the cloture votes on the motions to proceed to the death tax relief bill and the Native Hawaiian bill. Moments ago, cloture was filed on the Stickler nomination. Therefore, Senators can expect to have a cloture vote on Friday unless we work out an agreement to vote at an earlier time.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:06 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 8, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate June 7, 2006:

THE JUDICIARY

GREGORY KENT FRIZZEL, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA, VICE SVEN E. HOLMES, RESIGNED.